

**VSP Public Comment**

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**From:** Becky Croll [blcroll@ucdavis.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 23, 2005 9:06 AM  
**To:** McDannold, Bruce  
**Subject:** Voting Machine Certification

I urge you to pass on to Secretary of State McPherson my very grave concerns about even the consideration of certifying Diebold and ESS voting systems for California. As I am certain both you and the Secretary of State are aware, these two systems do not even qualify according to the California Constitution in that they cannot and do not guarantee that the votes will be counted correctly. Both systems operate on proprietary software and have tabulating systems that are hidden from the public. These are the same systems that witnesses said were tampered with in Ohio in the last Presidential Election. We do not want our elections in California to be questioned, we do not need these machines when other, more reasonably priced, open source systems are available.

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"Throughout history, it has been the inaction of those who could have acted; the indifference of those who should have known better; the silence of the voice of justice when it mattered most; that has made it possible for evil to triumph."  
Haile Selassie

"War Is A Racket. A racket is best described, I believe, as something that is not what it seems to the majority of the people. Only a small "inside" group knows what it is about. It is conducted for the benefit of the very few, at the expense of the very many. Out of war a few people make huge fortunes."  
Major General Smedley Butler. 1881 - 1940